



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
10117 PRINCESS PALM DRIVE SUITE 120
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33610

September 14, 2007

Tampa Regulatory Office
SAJ-2007-1721 (NW-JPF)

Jim Wilt
FDOT District One
P.O. Box 1249
Bartow, FL 33831-1249

Your application for a Department of the Army permit received on February 6, 2007, has been assigned number SAJ-2007-1721 (NW-JPF). A review of the information and drawings provided shows the proposed work is 0.43 acre of impact to waters of the United States for widening SR 70 from two lanes to four lanes. The proposed project is located along SR 70 from Turner Road to east of State Road 31, east of Arcadia, in Sections 31, 32, and 33, Township 37 South, Range 25 East, and Sections 4, 5, and 6, Township 38 South, Range 25 East, DeSoto County, Florida. The FPID number is 1938961.

Your project, as depicted on the received drawings, is authorized by Nationwide Permit (NWP) Number 14. In addition, project specific conditions have been enclosed. This verification is valid until September 14, 2009. Please access the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Jacksonville District's Regulatory web address at <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/regulatory/permitting/nwp/nwp.htm> to access web links to view the Final Nationwide Permits, Federal Register Vol. 72, dated March 12, 2007, the Corrections to the Final Nationwide Permits, Federal Register 72, May 8, 2007, and the List of Regional Conditions. These files contain the description of the Nationwide Permit authorization, the Nationwide Permit general conditions, and the regional conditions, which apply specifically to this verification for NWP 42. Additionally, enclosed is a list of the six General Conditions, which apply to all Department of the Army authorizations. You must comply with all of the special and general conditions and any project specific condition of this authorization or you may be subject to enforcement action. In the event you have not completed construction of your project within the specified time limit, a separate application or re-verification may be required.

The following special conditions are included with this verification:

1. Within 60 days of completion of the work authorized, the attached "Self-Certification Statement of Compliance" must be completed and submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Mail the completed form to the Regulatory Division, Enforcement Section, Post Office Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019.
2. No structure or work shall adversely affect or disturb properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places or those eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Prior to the start of work, the Permittee or other party on the Permittee's behalf, shall conduct a search in the National Register Information System (NRIS). Information can be found at; <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/research/nris.htm>. Information on properties eligible for inclusion in the National Register can be identified by contacting the Florida Master File Office by email at fmsfile@dos.state.fl.us or by telephone at 850-245-6440.

If unexpected cultural resources are encountered at any time within the project area that was not the subject of a previous cultural resource assessment survey, work should cease in the immediate vicinity of such discoveries. The permittee, or other party, should notify the SHPO immediately, as well as the appropriate Army Corps of Engineers office. After such notifications, project activities should not resume without verbal and/or written authorization from the SHPO.

If unmarked human remains are encountered, all work shall stop immediately, and the proper authorities notified in accordance with Section 872.05, Florida Statutes, unless on Federal lands. After such notifications, project activities on non-Federal lands shall not resume without verbal and/or written authorization from the Florida State Archaeologist for finds under his or her jurisdiction.

This letter of authorization does not obviate the necessity to obtain any other Federal, State, or local permits, which may be required. In Florida, projects qualifying for this NWP must be authorized under Part IV of Chapter 373 by the Department of Environmental Protection, a water management district under §. 373.069, F.S., or a local government with delegated authority under §. 373.441, F.S., and receive Water Quality Certification

(WQC) and Coastal Zone Consistency Concurrence (CZCC) (or a waiver), as well as any authorizations required by the State for the use of sovereignty submerged lands. You should check State-permitting requirements with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection or the appropriate water management district.

This letter does not give absolute Federal authority to perform the work as specified on your application. The proposed work may be subject to local building restrictions mandated by the National Flood Insurance Program. You should contact your local office that issues building permits to determine if your site is located in a flood-prone area, and if you must comply with the local building requirements mandated by the National Flood Insurance Program.

If you are unable to access the internet or require a hardcopy of any of the conditions, limitations, or expiration date for the above referenced NWP, please contact John Fellows by telephone at 813-769-7067.

This letter contains an approved jurisdictional determination. Enclosed you will find the approved jurisdictional determination form and a Notification of Appeal Process fact sheet and Request for Appeal (RFA) form. If you object to this determination, you may request an administrative appeal under Corps' regulations at 33 CFR Part 331. If you request to appeal this determination, you must submit a completed RFA form to the South Atlantic Division Office at the following address:

Mr. Michael F. Bell
South Atlantic Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CESAD-CM-CO-R, Room 9M15
60 Forsyth St., SW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8801.

Mr. Bell can be reached by telephone number at 404-562-5137, or by facsimile at 404-562-5138.

In order for an RFA to be accepted by the Corps, the Corps must determine that it is complete, that it meets the criteria for appeal under 33 CFR Part 331.5, and that it has been received by the Division office within 60 days of the date of the RFA.

Should you decide to submit an RFA form, it must be received at the above address by November 14, 2007.

Thank you for your cooperation with our permit program. The Corps Jacksonville District Regulatory Division is committed to improving service to our customers. We strive to perform our duty in a friendly and timely manner while working to preserve our environment. We invite you to take a few minutes to visit the following link and complete our automated Customer Service Survey:

http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/permit/forms/customer_service.htm.
Your input is appreciated - favorable or otherwise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Loren M. Mason', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Loren M. Mason
Chief, Special Projects
and Enforcement Branch

Enclosures

GENERAL CONDITIONS
33 CFR PART 320-330

PUBLISHED FEDERAL REGISTER DATED 13 NOVEMBER 1986

1. The time limit for completing the work authorized ends on September 14, 2009. If you find that you need more time to complete the authorized activity, submit your request for a time extension to this office for consideration at least one month before the above date is reached.
2. You must maintain the activity authorized by this permit in good condition and in conformance with the terms and conditions of this permit. You are not relieved of this requirement if you abandon the permitted activity, although you may make a good faith transfer to a third party in compliance with General Condition 4 below. Should you wish to cease to maintain the authorized activity or should you desire to abandon it without a good faith transfer, you must obtain a modification of this permit from this office, which may require restoration of the area.
3. If you discover any previously unknown historic or archeological remains while accomplishing the activity authorized by this permit, you must immediately notify this office of what you have found. We will initiate the Federal and state coordination required to determine if the remains warrant a recovery effort or if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
4. If you sell the property associated with this permit you must obtain the signature of the new owner in the space provided and forward a copy of the permit to this office to validate the transfer of this authorization.
5. If a conditioned water quality certification has been issued for your project, you must comply with the conditions specified in the certification as special conditions to this permit. For your convenience, a copy of the certification is attached if it contains such conditions.
6. You must allow representatives from this office to inspect the authorized activity at any time deemed necessary to ensure that it is being or has been accomplished in accordance with the terms and conditions of your permit.

SELF-CERTIFICATION STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Permit Number: NW-14

Application Number: SAJ-2007-1721 (NW-JPF)

Permittee's Name & Address (please print or type): _____

Telephone Number: _____

Location of the Work: _____

Date Work Started: _____ Date Work Completed: _____

Description of the Work (e.g., bank stabilization, residential or commercial filling, docks, dredging, etc.): _____

Acreage or Square Feet of Impacts to Waters of the United States: _____

Describe Mitigation completed (if applicable): _____

Describe any Deviations from Permit (attach drawing(s) depicting the deviations): _____

I certify that all work, and mitigation (if applicable) was done in accordance with the limitations and conditions as described in the permit. Any deviations as described above are depicted on the attached drawing(s).

Signature of Permittee

Date

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT TRANSFER REQUEST

Permit Number: NW-14

Application Number: SAJ-2007-1721 (NW-JPF)

When the structures or work authorized by this permit are still in existence at the time the property is transferred, the terms and conditions of this permit will continue to be binding on the new owner(s) of the property. Although the construction period for works authorized by Department of the Army permits is finite, the permit itself, with its limitations, does not expire.

To validate the transfer of this permit and the associated responsibilities associated with compliance with its terms and conditions, have the transferee sign and date below and mail to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Enforcement Branch, Post Office Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019.

(TRANSFEREE-SIGNATURE)

(SUBDIVISION)

(DATE)

(LOT)

(BLOCK)

(NAME-PRINTED)

(STREET ADDRESS)

(MAILING ADDRESS)

(CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)

STATEMENT OF FINDINGS/ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT/FINDING OF NO
SIGNIFICANT IMPACT/PUBLIC INTEREST DETERMINATION

SUBJECT: SAJ-2007-1721 (NW-JPF)

1. For each of the reissued and new Nationwide Permits (NWP), HQUSACE issued a decision document that contains an Environmental Assessment (EA), Statement of Findings, public interest review, and as appropriate, a Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines analysis. The Office of the Chief of Engineers has determined that division and district engineers will impose, as necessary, additional conditions on the NWP authorization or exercise discretionary authority to address locally important factors relating to the public interest, including any potential adverse effects on the human environment, and to ensure that the authorized activity results in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse effects on the environment. Supplemental documentation was prepared for the division engineer to address the individual and cumulative effects of the NWP(s) on local resources. On 12 July 2007, the supplemental documentation was issued by the division engineer and the Jacksonville District's proposed regional conditions were approved. Where required by the terms of the permit, general conditions, and/or regional conditions, the Jacksonville District will continue to perform case-specific review to ensure that the NWP will authorize only activities with no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse effects on the environment and those activities will not be contrary to the public interest.

2. Name and address of applicant:

FL DOT District One
P.O. Box 1249
Bartow, FL 33831-1249

3. Project description:

The applicant proposes 0.43 acre of impact to waters of the United States for widening SR 70 from two lanes to four lanes. This activity meets the terms and conditions for authorization under Nationwide Permit 14, as published in the March 12, 2007, issue of the Federal Register (72 FR 11092).

4. Project location:

The proposed project is located along SR 70 from Turner Road to east of State Road 31, east of Arcadia, in Sections 31, 32, and 33, Township 37 South, Range 25 East, and Sections 4, 5, and 6, Township 38 South, Range 25 East, DeSoto County, Florida.

5. Existing site conditions:

The 0.43 acre of waters of the United States impacted by the proposed project are roadside ditches excavated in areas with hydric soils. These areas are characterized vegetatively by torpedo grass, water primrose, and other ruderal wetland and facultative plants. Based on available information, these areas provide limited wetland functions such as habitat.

6. Applicant's stated purpose and need for the proposed project:

The project is necessary to upgrade the road to meet current and future traffic capacity needs.

7. Scope of Analysis:

The scope of analysis is limited to the 0.43 acre of waters of the US affected by the project and the immediately adjacent uplands.

8. Alternatives:

The impact of the applicant's proposal is not significant and there are no unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. The current project requires the placement of fill into waters of the United States to allow the applicant to address the need for improved infrastructure.

9. The following is a brief evaluation of the potential adverse environmental effects (direct, indirect and cumulative) of the proposed activity and alternatives:

Based on available information, the impacted areas provide limited wetland functions such as habitat. Other wetland functions such as water quality treatment and flood attenuation have been addressed by the state's ERP. Detrimental impacts are expected to be minimal although they would be permanent in the construction area. The beneficial effects associated with utilization of the property would be permanent.

10. Means to mitigate adverse environmental impacts that are not already included in the proposed activity or alternatives to ensure that the activity being verified by the Corps will have no more than minimal adverse effects on the environment:

There are no means to mitigate adverse environmental impacts that are not already included in the proposed activity or alternatives to ensure that the activity being verified by the Corps will have no more than minimal adverse effects on the environment necessary.

11. Other Federal, State, and Local Authorizations Obtained or Required and Pending:

- a. Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification (WQC): The WQC, number 44032402.000, was issued on July 18, 2007.
- b. Coastal Zone Management (CZM) consistency certification: There is no evidence or indication from the State of Florida that the project is inconsistent with the Florida CZM. Issuance of a DEP/WMD permit certifies that the project is consistent with the CZM plan.
- c. Endangered Species Act compliance: The proposed project will not affect any threatened or endangered species based on the information supplied by the applicant.
- d. National Historic Preservation Act compliance: The proposed project will not affect any historic or archaeological resources based on the information supplied by the applicant.
- e. Other authorizations:

12. Public interest review: The Corps reviewed all of the public interest factors including, but not limited to, the effects the work might have on conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water quality, safety, and consideration of property ownership. The Corps has determined that the proposed activity will have no more than minimal adverse effects on any of the public interest factors.

a. Describe the relative extent of the public and private need for the proposed structure or work: Public and private needs include improved transportation infrastructure.

b. Describe the practicability of using reasonable alternative locations and methods to accomplish the objective of the purposed work where there are unresolved conflicts as to resource use: There are no unresolved conflicts regarding resource use.

c. Describe the extent and permanence of the beneficial and/or detrimental effects, which the proposed work is likely to have on the public, and private uses to which the area is suited: Detrimental impacts are expected to be minimal although they would be permanent in the construction area. The beneficial effects associated with utilization of the property would be permanent.

13. Finding of No Significant Impact. Based on the information in the administrative record for this NWP-authorized activity, I have determined that the authorized activity will not have a significant adverse effect on the quality of the human environment. This activity, if conducted in accordance with the terms and conditions of the NWP and the special conditions stated in the NWP verification letter, will result in no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse effects on the environment. Therefore, the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required for this authorized activity.

14. Public Interest Determination: This activity, if conducted in accordance with the terms and conditions of the NWP and the special conditions stated in the NWP verification letter, will not be contrary to the public interest.

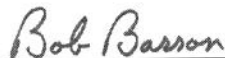
PREPARED BY:



Project Manager

Date: 9/13/07

REVIEWED BY:



Reviewer

Date: 27Sep07